

Chapter 166 Status Reversed

Loraine was among the guests invited to the Cruz family's banquet.

She was, unfortunately, utterly uninterested in these upper-class social banquets.

She didn't intend to go. However, Grady called her that evening.

"Loraine, will you attend the banquet my family is hosting?"

Grady's voice was full of expectation.

Loraine said apologetically, "I'm sorry. I'm not sure if I'll be free."

"Are you sure you'll be busy or that you don't want to attend? I'm sorry if it's because of what my mother did. I promise it will never happen again. Loraine, I'm really hoping you'll be able to attend the banquet. Its theme is appreciation. I believe you would be intrigued," Grady said sincerely.

Loraine suddenly felt she couldn't refuse him after thinking of the dejected expression on his face.

On top of that, she was quite interested in the banquet's theme: appreciation.

Finally, Loraine agreed.

"Okay, Grady, I appreciate the invitation. I'll arrive on time."

"Great!" Grady exclaimed. "So, as per the banquet, you'll need a male companion. Would you mind if I be your male companion?"

Male companion?

Loraine thought that Wesley might be interested.

Loraine politely declined, "I'm sorry, Grady. I already have someone in my mind."

Grady felt relieved that Loraine agreed to attend the banquet. However, he was also disappointed that the companion she chose was not him.

Nevertheless, he cheered up and said, "Then I'm looking forward to seeing you at the banquet."

Having promised that she would attend the banquet, Loraine had to take her time to prepare for the event.

The next day, Loraine was accompanied by Jennie shopping for the banquet dress.

Loraine noticed that Jennie was constantly staring at her phone and flashing a weird smile while they were shopping.

Out of curiosity, she asked, "Jennie, who are you

chatting with? Why are you so joyful?"

"Huh?" Loraine's question made Jennie come to her senses all of a sudden. She hid the phone in her pocket and shook her head. "Nobody!"

"Why do I sense that something is wrong about you? You..."

As soon as Jennie realized Loraine was about to dig the truth, she quickly pulled over a dress and tried to change the subject.

"Wow! Lorrie, look at this dress. It's so beautiful. Go and try it on!"

Instantly, Loraine's focus was diverted, and she unintentionally turned her head to look at the dress Jennie was holding.

The purple off-the-shoulder dress was stunning. It had black lace around the waist, hollowed-out lace on the hem, and hidden flower patterns on the fabric. The hemline was embellished with crystals that sparkled like early morning dew.

The dress caught Loraine's attention right away, and she promptly forgot her question.

"It's really beautiful. Let me go try it on!"

Jennie sighed with relief and pushed Loraine into the dressing room.

Ten minutes later, Loraine came out of the dressing

room wearing the dress.

Everyone held their breath as she walked out.

In the light, Loraine's flawless body was encased in the purple evening gown. Her long hair fell naturally over her shoulders. Her stunning collarbone was concealed but slightly visible. Her slender legs were flawlessly revealed by the hemline slit.

Loraine appeared like a goddess emerging from the purple star lights due to the purple light reflecting off the crystals of the dress's hemline. In simple terms, she was seductive, elegant, and mysterious.

After a short silence, a salesperson exclaimed, "Miss Torres, it appears as though this dress was specifically designed for you. You look stunning!"

When Loraine caught a glimpse of herself in the mirror, she, too, adored the dress.

"Okay, I'll buy this—"

"I will take this dress!"

Loraine was abruptly cut off by a woman's voice that emerged behind her.

The salesperson looked at the woman in surprise and quickly explained, "I'm sorry, miss. This dress is customized by an Italy designer. This is the only one around the world. Since this lady has already worn it, she is rightful to buy it."

"That's not a problem! You can tell her to take it off and give it to me!" The woman's voice was very arrogant.

Immediately, someone beside her added, "You've already heard what my daughter said. Give her the dress right away!"

Loraine thought she recognized the two voices. She whirled around and saw two annoying familiar faces.

They were Marina and Laura.

"Loraine! Why do you always show up wherever we are?"

Their facial expressions changed when they saw Loraine.

Loraine scowled as well. Meeting these two was a tragedy that would never end.

In shock, the salesperson turned to face the three and said, "So you three know each other. Then this dress..."

"You can't sale it to them!" Jennie stepped forward and cut in. "We saw this dress first. We will buy it!"

Upon hearing this, Laura and Marina both wore serious expressions.

Of course, Marina was not willing to give it to Loraine. She shouted, "I don't give a damn who saw it first! I just want this dress. I can pay you more!"

Without hesitation, Loraine pulled out her card and gave it to the salesperson. "This dress is mine to buy. Here take my card and make the payment."

"Don't be so smug! I have a card too!"

Unwilling to be outdone, Marina took her card and handed it to the salesperson.

When she witnessed this scene, Jennie stood akimbo, snorted mockingly, and said, "In case you forgot, Lorrie is currently the president of Universe Group. Are you confident you want to make a wealth comparison?"

When the salesperson heard this, she finally acknowledged that Loraine was the female CEO who had been making headlines recently.

She came to her senses, ignored Marina and took Loraine's card respectfully. She looked at Loraine and said, "Miss Torres, we'll pack your dress right away."

Suddenly, everyone in the store was serving Loraine while utterly oblivious to Laura and Marina.

At this point, their status and Loraine's appeared to be completely reversed.

Marina and Laura stood there shamefully. They were in a dilemma on whether or not they should leave.

Chapter 167 I Will Help You

Now was different from the past.

Loraine was the heir of the Torres family and the president of Universe Group. She had a powerful and influential status.

Watching as the crowd flattered her, Marina and Laura could barely suppress their anger. It was a public place, so they dared not lose their temper.

Laura suddenly had what she felt was a brilliant idea and she walked toward Loraine. "Loraine, we've been family for three years. If you like this dress so much, I won't let Marina fight with you for it. Let bygones be bygones. What do you think?"

She wanted to relax the tense relationship between Loraine and her family, but she didn't expect that Loraine would roll her eyes at her and retort sharply.

"I'll buy this dress with my money. I don't owe anyone."

Hearing this, Laura froze. But she recovered quickly and forced a smile. "Well, that makes sense. But do you think it's good to fight for a dress like this?"

Jennie didn't like her hypocrisy. "You're so cheeky. Did your daughter fight any less with Loraine in the past? Let me tell you, you and your daughter haven't paid

for how you bullied Lorrie. So, you'd better watch your attitude. Don't mess with her anymore!"

"What did you say?" Marina was so angry that her face turned red. She wanted to get at Jennie, but Laura stopped her in time, which only served to annoy her even further. "Mom, why the hell are you stopping me?"

"Marina!" Laura gave Marina a quick wink to make her calm down.

They could not afford to look for trouble. If Loraine decided to get even with them, they might lose.

Loraine turned her back on the mother and daughter, not caring what they did or said. She waved at one of the shop assistants, signaling for her to come over.

"Excuse me. It's too noisy here. Please take us to the VIP area. I don't want to be bothered by awful people."

"Okay, Miss Torres."

With the shop assistant leading the way, Loraine took Jennie over to the VIP area. She didn't even glance in the direction of Marina and Laura as she went.

Marina had never been humiliated like this before. Not only had her favorite dress been bought by Loraine, but she was also taunted by her.

She stared at Loraine's retreating figure with red eyes, and all of a sudden, she roared angrily, "Mom, I can't stand it! Must we allow that bitch to be arrogant all

Laura tried to calm her down. "Marina, remember, the most important thing is not which dress you wear, but to make Grady fall in love with you. This way, we'll have our edge back."

Remembering how stunning Loraine was in that dress, Marina felt even more aggrieved.

"It's easy for you to say that. If that bitch shows up at the party in that dress, no one will notice me."

Laura didn't know what to say to this.

Thinking of how Loraine disgraced them just now, Laura made up her mind and said to her daughter, "Don't worry. I'll help you!"

After Loraine and Jennie had tried on the clothes, they paid and left without hesitation.

The shop assistant carefully packed the designer dress and prepared it to be sent to Loraine later.

Nobody noticed that after the shop assistant had left, Laura sneaked into the fitting room alone.

On the day of the Cruz family's banquet, Loraine, dressed in her luxury dress, put her arm around Wesley's and appeared at the banquet hall.

The combination of a handsome man and a beautiful woman instantly attracted the attention of the guests, and exclamations could be heard across the hall.

Now that Loraine had regained her identity as a member of a rich and powerful family, she didn't need to act modest anymore. The high-end customized dress and luxury jewelry she was wearing were all handmade by famous designers, which made countless ladies envy her.

But they didn't dare gossip about her like they used to do. Instead, they gathered around her and kept praising her.

"Loraine, you look gorgeous today!"

"You're by far the most beautiful woman at this party."

Not far away, Marco caught a glimpse of Loraine, who was being surrounded and flattered.

They hadn't seen each other since a few days prior. Marco felt she was getting more and more beautiful with each passing day.

He wanted to step forward to greet her, but he decided to warn Marina and Laura first.

"You two, behave yourselves today. If you make trouble again, I will ask someone to send you back home."

Laura agreed without hesitation. "Marco, don't worry. We won't make any trouble."

Marina pursed her lips in dissatisfaction. But she couldn't say anything though since she was very much

afraid of incurring Marco's wrath. So she nodded obediently and answered, "Got it."

Marco took a long glance at them before turning around and going over to meet Loraine.

The moment his back was turned, the expressions on the faces of Laura and Marina changed. It was obvious that they were up to something.

